THE ARMY OF DARKNESS™

ASH THE AUTHOR

DUVALL / MENNA / JOHNSON / AJALA / ESPOSITO

DYNAMITE

Humble Bundle

RATED TEEN+

THE ARMY OF DARKNESS™

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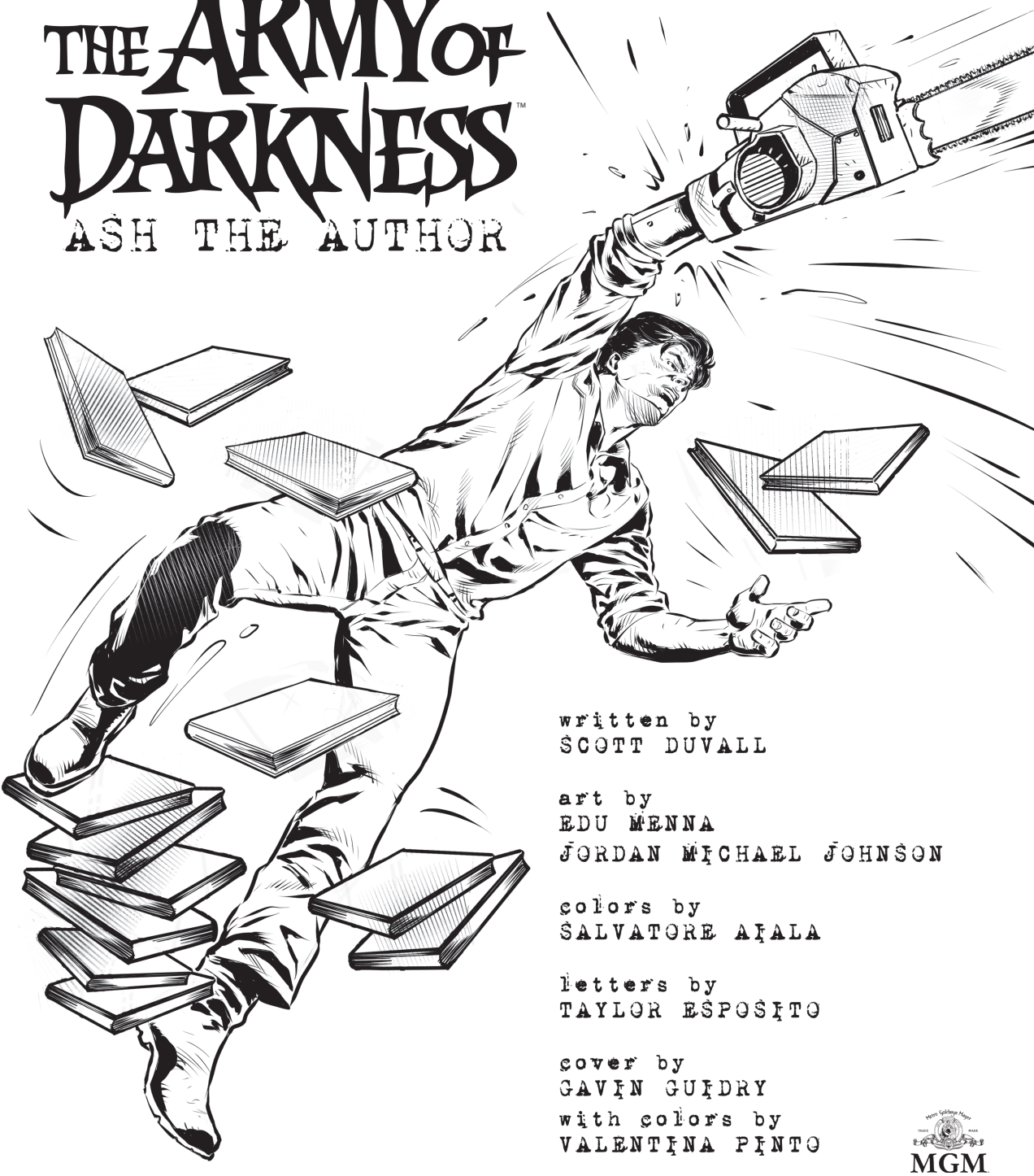

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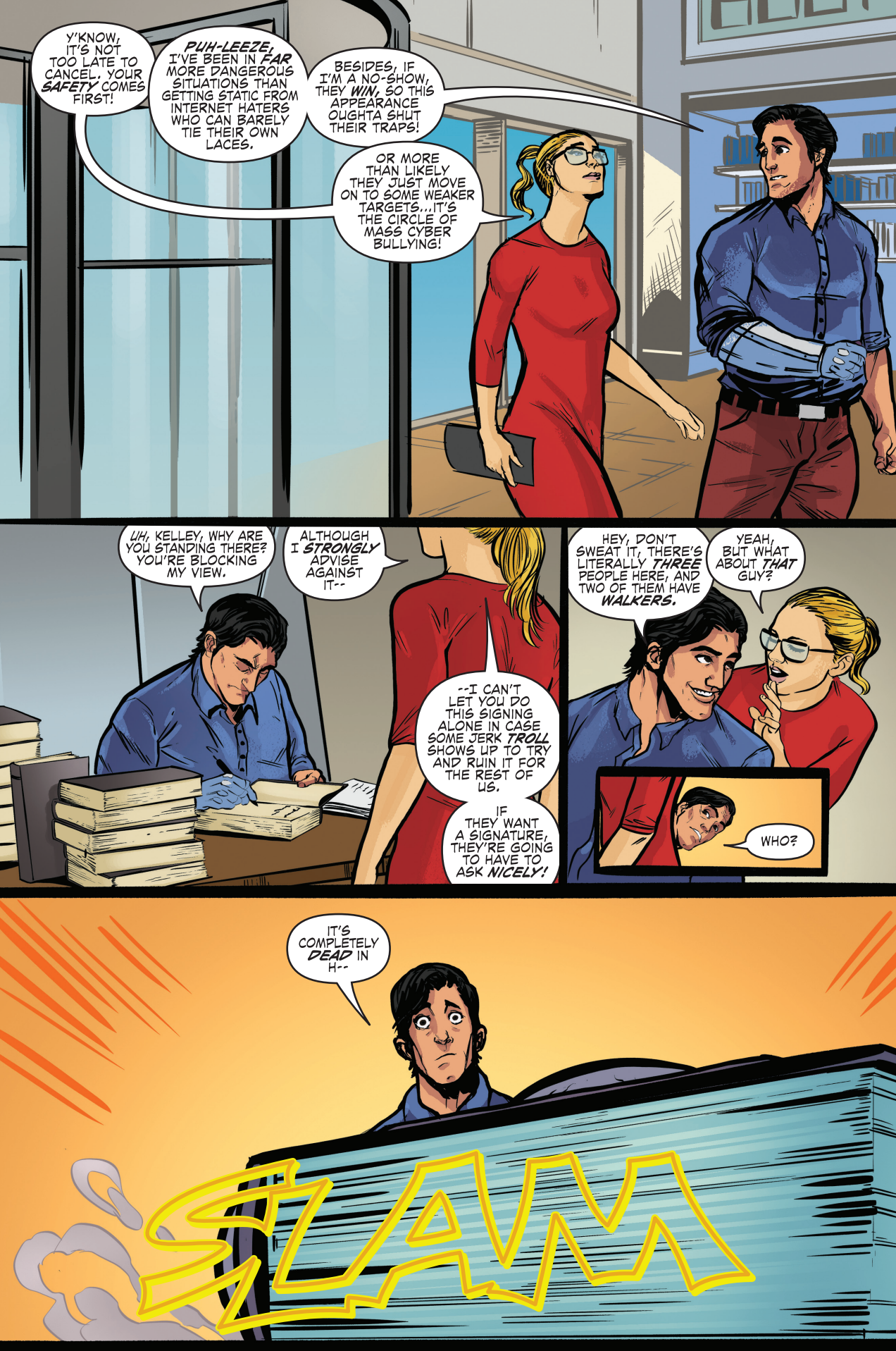
HONK HONK
HONK OOONK
BEEEP
BEEEEP
HEY, CABBIE! IF YOU COULD GET US THERE SOMETIME THIS CENTURY, THAT'D BE ALL RIGHT.
I COULD WALK FASTER THAN THIS!
TO MIDTOWN IN THIS HEAT-WAVE?
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!
TAXI
VRRRRRRRMMMM
HEY, PAL, WE GOT SOMEPLACE TO BE SO LET'S FIND US A SHORTCUT AND I'LL THROW IN A SIGNED COPY OF MY BOOK, DEAL?
YOUR BOOK, HUH? YOU SOME BIG SHOT NOVELIST OR SOMETHIN'?
KELLEY, WHY DON'T YOU SCHOOL THIS UNEDUCATED SIMPLETON ON WHO YOU'RE REPRESENTING HERE.
SURE! THIS IS ASHLEY J. WILLIAMS, AKA "ASH," AKA "THE CHOSEN ONE," AND HE'S JUST RELEASED HIS DEBUT AUTOBIOGRAPHY, "I COULD HAVE BEEN KING," BASED ON HIS TIME TRAVEL HEROICS!
WHAT SHE SAID, PAL! NOW YOU CAN TELL ALL YOUR CABBIE FRIENDS ABOUT THE TIME YOU HAD THE HONOR OF DRIVING AROUND--
MATTER OF FACT, OUR CURRENT BOOK RANKING ON AMAZOMBIE IS #2,456,342.
Y'KNOW, YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP VOLUNTEERING THAT INFORMATION...
HOWEVER, ON THE PLUS SIDE, YOUR BOOK IS RANKED #1 IN THE CATEGORY OF "HISTORICAL ROCKABILLY SUPERNATURAL HORROR NON-FICTION SCI-FI OCCULT COMEDIC MEMOIR".
THAT IS...ODDLY SPECIFIC.

WE'LL WALK FROM HERE, THANKS!
HERE'S YER TIP!
WHAT'S THIS BOOK ABOUT, ANYWAY?
TUNE IN TO THE GEORGE GENE SHOW IN 5 MINUTES! YOU'LL HEAR ME YAP ALL ABOUT IT!
SO, WHICH PARTS OF MY LIFE DO I HAVE TO "GLOSS OVER" THIS TIME SO I DON'T "UPSET THE AUDIENCE"?
YOU CAN SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT ON THE GEORGE GENE SHOW, IT'S TOTALLY UNCENSORED!
JUST BE YOURSELF!
THE ONLY THINGS I'M GOING TO ASK THAT YOU DO SAY ARE THAT YOU HAVE A BOOK SIGNING THIS AFTERNOON DOWNTOWN, AND TO ALSO PLUG YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLE @GROOVYASH.
GOTTA GET THAT ONLINE FOLLOWING UP SO WE CAN RAISE YOUR AMAZOMBIE BOOK RANKING!
I THOUGHT YOU HATED AMAZOMBIE BECAUSE OF THEIR "IMMORAL BUSINESS PRACTICES BLAH BLAH FANCY COLLEGE WORD BLAH!"
I DO! AND THAT'S WHY THIS SIGNING IS SO IMPORTANT, SO THAT WE CAN HAND-SELL IT TO THE PUBLIC AND PROMOTE IT ON A MAJOR RADIO SHOW!
HI, GEORGE! WE SPOKE ON THE PHONE. I'M KELLEY, ASH'S EDITOR/PUBLICIST/MANAGER/FIXER-OF-ALL-PROBLEMS PERSON.
RAGE
AH, YES, HELLO, KELLEY! YOU WEAR MANY HATS! AND THIS MUST BE--

ASH.
SO, DOES ANYTHING GO ON AIR OR IS IT LIKE A GEORGE CARLIN'S SEVEN DIRTY WORDS SITUATION?
A STRAIGHT SHOOTER! I CAN TELL WE'RE GONNA GET ALONG JUST FINE, ASH.
LET'S GET YOU SET UP WITH A MICROPHONE, SHALL WE?
...SO THE WAY I FIGURED, NO ONE ELSE WAS WRITING ABOUT MY ADVENTURES SAVING THE WORLD AND GETTING THE GIRL IN THE PROCESS, SO I HAD BETTER WRITE ABOUT IT MYSELF SO THE TRUTH CAN FINALLY BE TOLD.
YEAH, YOU DIDN'T BURY THE LEAD ON THAT ONE...
SPEAKING OF, YOU MAKE SOME PRETTY WILD CLAIMS IN YOUR BOOK "I COULD HAVE BEEN KING," SUBTITLED "MEDIEVAL DEAD"--
--ABOUT GOING BACK IN TIME AND USING SOME "MAGIC BOOK" TO STOP AN ARMY OF THE DEAD. HOW DO YOU BACK THESE STORIES UP?
LIKE, DID I TELL YOU THE PART ABOUT THE TIME I COULD HAVE BEEN KING?
THAT "MAGIC BOOK" IS THE NECRONOMICON EX-MORTIS AND IF I KNEW WHERE IT WAS, I COULD PROVE EVERYTHING BUT IT...WENT MISSING...
WELL, I'M SURE ALL OUR LOYAL LISTENERS WILL KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THIS MONSTER BOOK OF YOURS...WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE AGAIN?
IT'S BOUND IN HUMAN FLESH AND INKED IN BLOOD.
OH...AND THE COVER LOOKS LIKE A SCARY STRETCHED OUT SCREAMING FACE...
RIIIIIGHT... ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO PLUG WHILE YOU'VE GOT THE MIC?
I'M DOING A SIGNING THIS AFTERNOON AT SOME FANCY BOOK-STORE DOWNTOWN SO COME ON BY AND GRAB A COPY OF MY BOOK.
=KOFF= FOLLOWERS =KOFF=
OH YEAH, AND I'M SUPPOSED TO TELL EVERYONE TO FOLLOW ME @GROOVYASH, SO DO IT WILLYA, SO KELLEY HERE GETS OFF MY BACK.

SO, DID I SAY EVERY SINGLE LITTLE TINY SYLLABLE RIGHT, THIS TIME?
YES! MATTER OF FACT, SINCE SHARING YOUR HANDLE ON THE LIVESTREAM--
--YOUR ONLINE FOLLOWING HAS GROWN EXPONENTIALLY AND TRAFFIC ON YOUR INSIGHTS HAS SPIKED TO AN ALL-TIME HIGH!
100-47
CAFE
YOU'RE SPEAKIN' GREEK TO ME, LADY, BUT IT SOUNDS IMPRESSIVE! DOES THAT MEAN WE HIT A MILLION FOLLOWERS YET?
IT MEANS WE GAINED 11 NEW FOLLOWERS...
OH DEAR!
WHAT NOW? DID AMAZOMBIE SPAM YOU AGAIN?
I'M AFRAID YOU'VE ATTRACTED YOUR FIRST TROLL!
WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TROLL I'VE ATTRACTED, IF YOU CATCH MY DRIFT...
INTERNET TROLL! AND :GASP: LOOK! HE SENT YOU A DEATH THREAT!
REALLY? :MUNCH:
"@GROOVYASH IF U SHOW UR FACE IN PUBLIC U DED MAN"
HMMM... HOW DO WE KNOW THIS @FANBOI21774 ISN'T JUST SOME RUSSIAN BOT?
THAT'S A THING, RIGHT? POLITICS?


Y'KNOW, IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CANCEL. YOUR SAFETY COMES FIRST!
PUH-LEEZE, I'VE BEEN IN FAR MORE DANGEROUS SITUATIONS THAN GETTING STATIC FROM INTERNET HATERS WHO CAN BARELY TIE THEIR OWN LACES.
BESIDES, IF I'M A NO-SHOW, THEY WIN, SO THIS APPEARANCE OUGHTA SHUT THEIR TRAPS!
OR MORE THAN LIKELY THEY JUST MOVE ON TO SOME WEAKER TARGETS...IT'S THE CIRCLE OF MASS CYBER BULLYING!
UH, KELLEY, WHY ARE YOU STANDING THERE? YOU'RE BLOCKING MY VIEW.
ALTHOUGH I STRONGLY ADVISE AGAINST IT--
--I CAN'T LET YOU DO THIS SIGNING ALONE IN CASE SOME JERK TROLL SHOWS UP TO TRY AND RUIN IT FOR THE REST OF US.
IF THEY WANT A SIGNATURE, THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ASK NICELY!
HEY, DON'T SWEAT IT, THERE'S LITERALLY THREE PEOPLE HERE, AND TWO OF THEM HAVE WALKERS.
YEAH, BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT GUY?
WHO?
IT'S COMPLETELY DEAD IN H--
SLAM

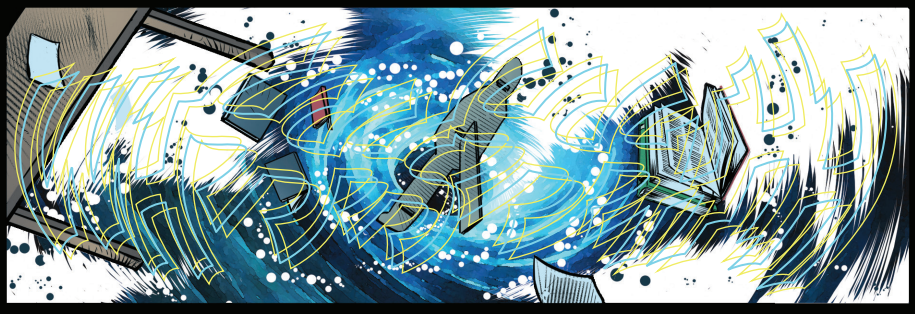
SIGN MY BOOK?

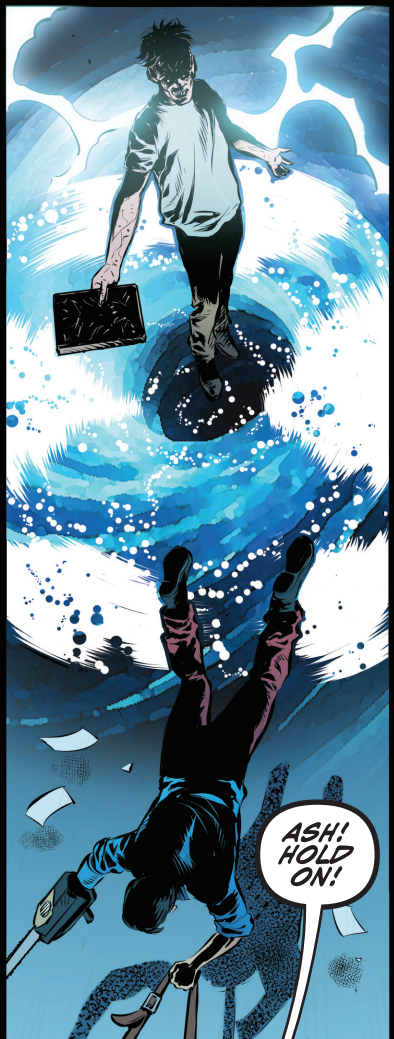
UH HUH...AND WHO SHOULD I MAKE IT OUT TO...?
IT'S UM...I-I'M YOUR B-BIGGEST--
ASH, IT'S HIM!
WHA--?
YOUR INTERNET TROLL! @FANBOI21774! AND ISN'T THAT THE--
--NECRONOMICON EX-MORTIS!
UTUK XUL! NADANU ME EMUQ!*
KANDARIAN IDIMMU, USELLA MITUTI IKKALU BALTUTI!**
*EVIL SPIRIT! GIVE ME POWER!
**KANDARIAN DEMON, RAISE UP THE DEAD HERE CONSUMING THE LIVING!
ELI BALTUTI IMA IDU MITUTI!***
***DEAD WILL BE MORE NUMEROUS THAN THE LIVING!

SLAM
YEAH... THIS IS PRETTY MUCH EXACTLY HOW I PICTURED MY FIRST EVER BOOK SIGNING GOING...
HEY, KELLEY!
DID'JA PACK THE THING LIKE WE TALKED ABOUT?
THUD
THE THING! YES, INDEED!
THIS IS OBVIOUSLY "THE THING" YOU MEANT, RIGHT?
YEAH! TOSS IT HERE!
SWAK
AND RISK HAVING THE CHAIN PART HIT YOU IN THE EYE? THAT'S SO--
JUST THROW IT!

FWEEE

UTUK XUL, PETA BABKAMA LURUBA ANAKU.*
*EVIL SPIRIT, OPEN THE GATE FOR ME SO THAT I CAN ENTER HERE.




ASH! HOLD ON!

WELL, IF THIS IS THE WAY IT'S GOTTA END, AT LEAST THINK OF THE POSTHUMOUS BOOK SALES!
RIIIIP

GERONIMOOOOOO!

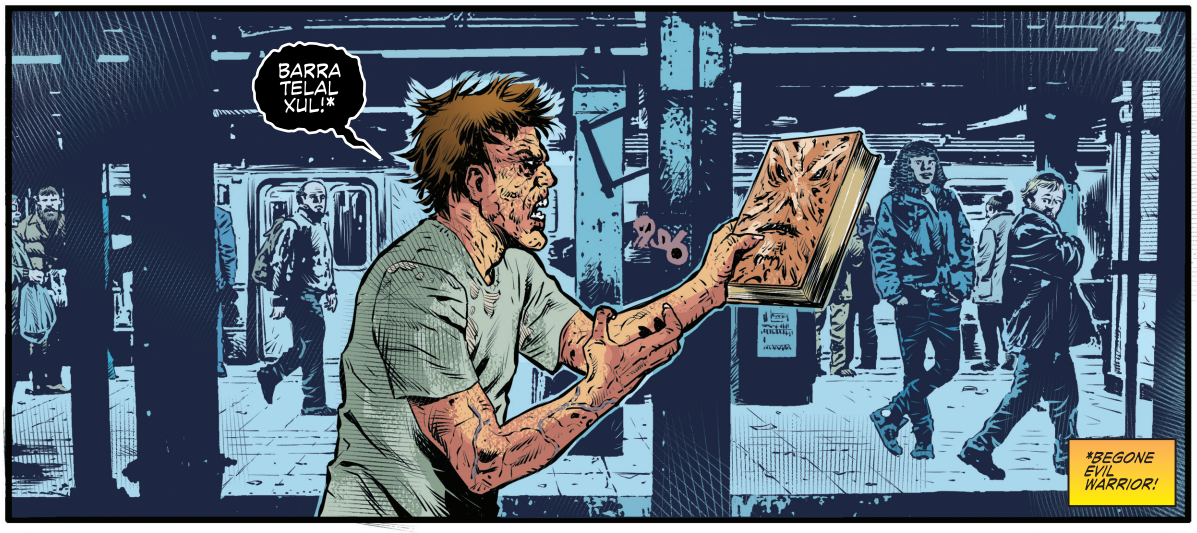
RRRRRRRRR
KA-KA-KA-KA
GOTTA SLOW MY FALL, B'FORE I BREAK MY DAMN LEGS...

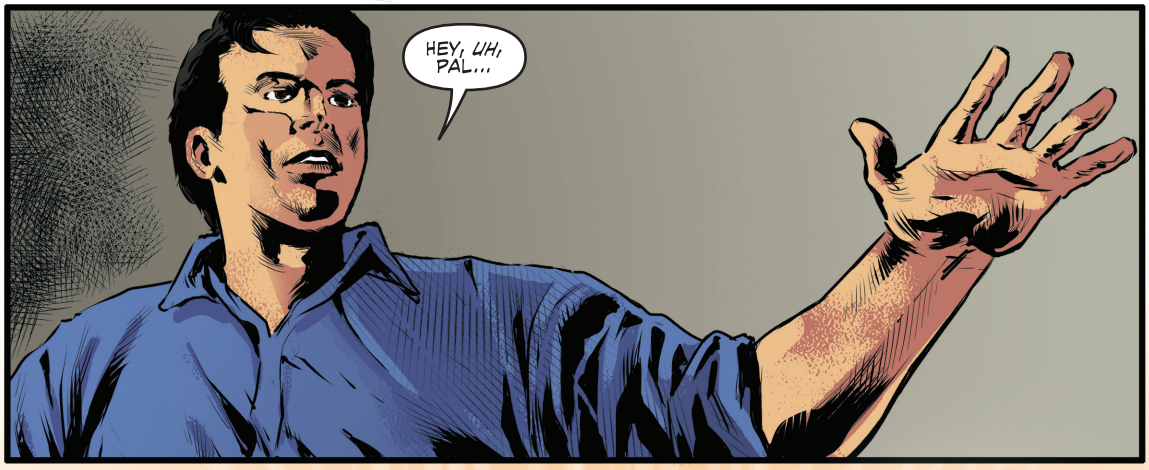
HEY, IT *WORKED!*
KLANG

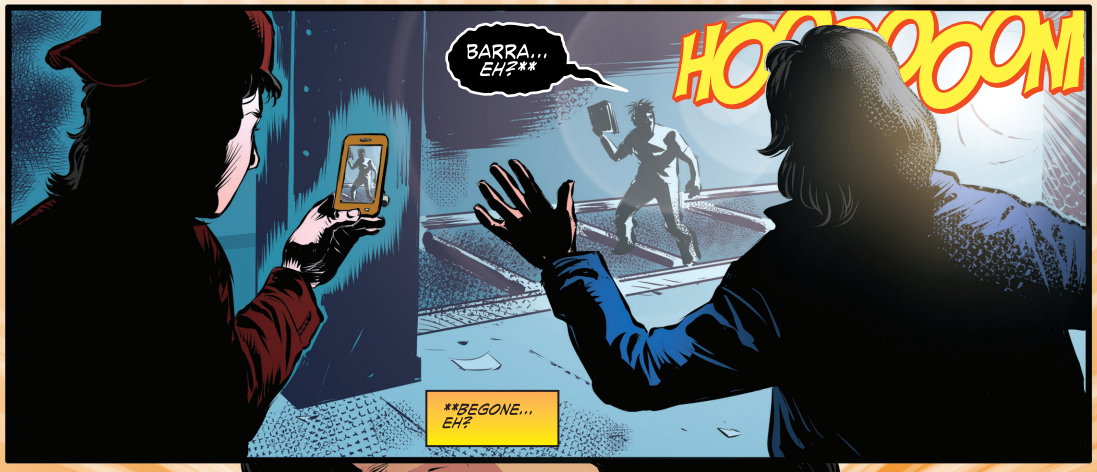
NOT SO *FAST*, FANBOI!

YOUR DAYS OF TROLLING ME ARE OVER, PAL!

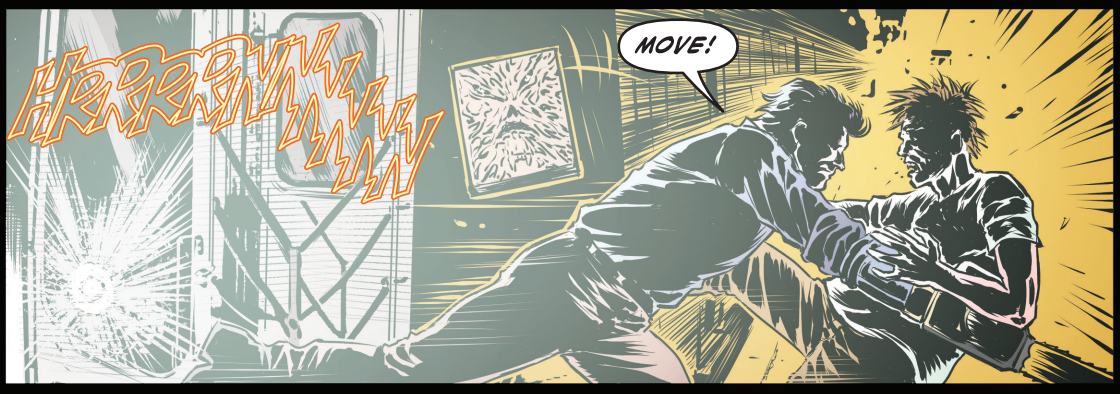
I KNOW THESE TUNNELS LIKE THE BACK OF MY CHAINSAW BLADE. DON'T ASK ME HOW I KNOW...


BARRA TELAL XUL!*
*BEGONE EVIL WARRIOR!


HEY, UH, PAL...


BARRA... EH?**
HOOOOOOOM
**BEGONE... EH?

I'M SERIOUS, TIME TO--
OOONK

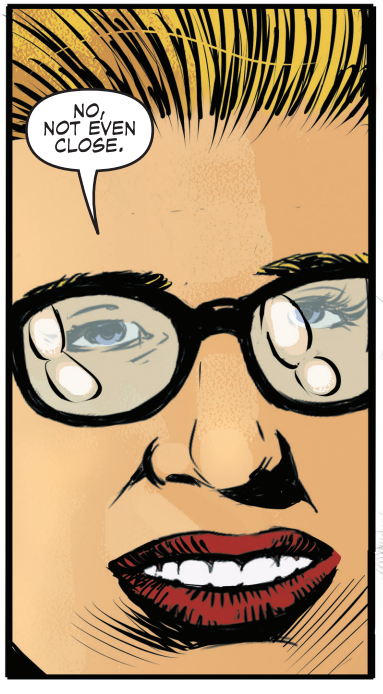

HRRR

CHOSEN ONE! WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?!
MOST PEOPLE WHO SPEND AS MUCH TIME AROUND ME AS YOU END UP DEAD BY NOW.
AND, HEY, FELLAS! KEEP AN EYE ON THIS GUY. HE COULD BE TROUBLE.
ASH! SO GLAD YOU'RE OK!
DID YOU SEE WHAT'S TRENDING?
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAFTA TELL YA...I DON'T GIVE A SEWER RAT'S ASS ABOUT FASHION WEEK!
NO, YOU'VE GONE VIRAL!
IS THAT GOOD?
IT'S GREAT!
SOMEONE TOOK VIDEO OF YOU SAVING THAT INSANE FAN AND IT'S ALL OVER THE NET!
SO, AM I FAMOUS NOW? DO I NEED TO GET AN ENTOURAGE?
INTERNET FAMOUS. BIG DIFFERENCE.
HOWEVER, IT DID RAISE YOUR AMAZOMBIE RANKING BY A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT, SO BRAVO TO YOU!

SO, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? AM I *RICH* NOW?

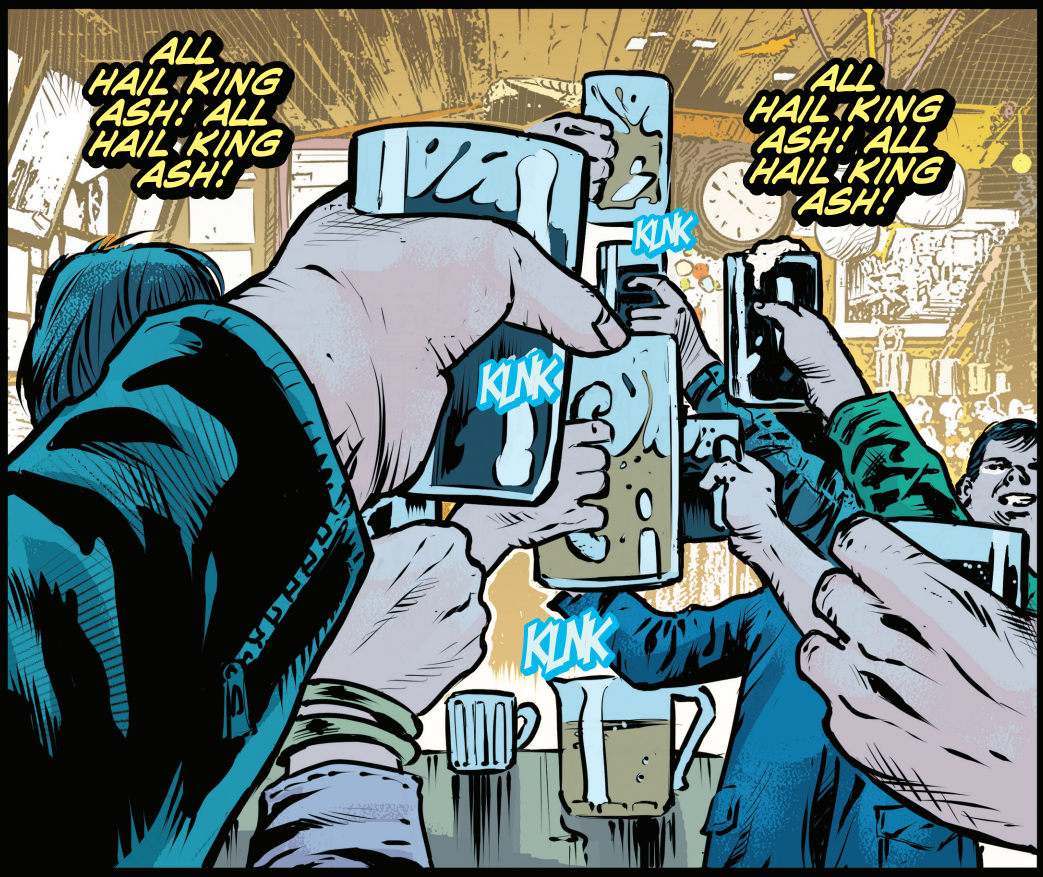
DEFINE *"RICH."*

LIKE, DID WE SELL ENOUGH BOOKS TO AFFORD TO FLY US AND MY FANS HERE FIRST CLASS TO VEGAS?


NO, NOT EVEN CLOSE.

HOW ABOUT A COUPLE ROUNDS OF BEERS AT McFOLEY'S?
WE CAN BUDGET FOR *ONE* ROUND OF HAVOC-MAKING.

HEY, WE'RE *ALL* GETTING TANKED AT *McFOLEY'S!* FIRST ROUNDS ON *KELLEY!*
HOORAY!
YOU *RULE,* ASH!


ALL HAIL KING ASH! ALL HAIL KING ASH!
KLNK
KLNK
KLNK
ALL HAIL KING ASH! ALL HAIL KING ASH!

HEY, ASH, IS THIS WHAT YOU HAD IN MIND WHEN YOU GAVE UP BEING KING?

NOT EXACTLY...
EXCEPT FOR THE BEER PART.
NOW WHO WANTS TO BUY THE KING HIS NEXT DRINK?
THE END